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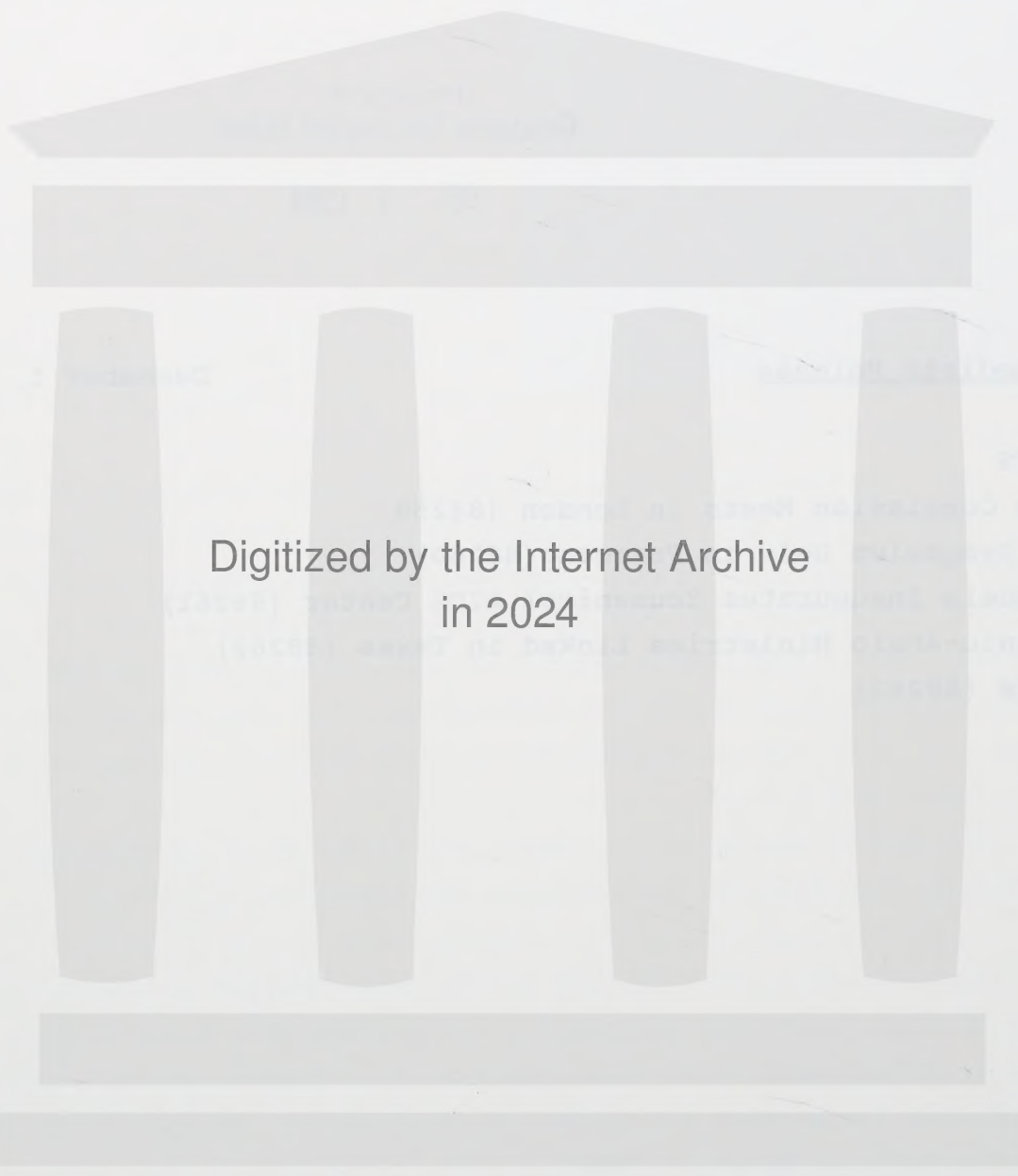
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CONTENTS

PAGE

- Eames Commission Meets in London (88259) 2
- AIDS Symposium Held in Pasadena (88260) 5
- Venezuela Inaugurates Ecumenical AIDS Center (88261) 8
- Hispanic-Anglo Ministries Linked in Texas (88262) 10
- Briefs (88263) 12



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Eames Commission Meets in London

DPS 88259

NEW YORK (DPS, Dec. 1) -- "I am looking to you as a Commission to give the Primates advice about our manner of living together in the Anglican Communion...." The Archbishop of Canterbury began his charge to the Commission on Communion and Women in the Episcopate, meeting in London, England, November 23-25, with these words.

Called the Eames Commission -- for its chairman the Most Rev. Robin Eames, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland -- the group was established by a resolution of the 69th Lambeth Conference to answer questions about Communion among the provinces of the worldwide Anglican body once women bishops had been consecrated in any of its provinces. Since Lambeth and the drafting of the Lambeth resolution, the issue has become especially pertinent because of the election by the Diocese of Massachusetts of the Rev. Barbara Harris as Suffragan Bishop on September 24. [See DPS 88201-88204.]

In a statement issued at the close of the meeting, Eames reiterated the charge of the Commission, and its ongoing life. In summing up their deliberations, he made clear the special role the Commission was playing in the life and structure of the Communion. "While the 27 member Churches of the Anglican Communion are self-governing, we are, at the same time, a Communion of Churches with deep bonds which we share in Christ. There is no central legislative body: each Provincial Synod or Convention legislates as it deems fit and proper for its own territorial jurisdiction. As a worldwide Communion of Churches we engage in a consultative process -- not a legislative process."

Eames also made it clear that the Commission was not formed "to examine again the arguments for and against the ordination of women to the priesthood and the episcopate." Rather, Eames stated,

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DPS 88259/2

Lambeth passed the Conference Resolution "in the knowledge that three Provinces (Canada, the Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and New Zealand) have decided that they do not intend to withhold consecration to the episcopate of a woman who is duly elected by the legal requirements of their Provinces."

In light of the Harris election in the United States, the Commission also supplied guidelines for bishops from outside the Episcopal Church who might receive invitations to her consecration. "...We recommend that both invitations and responses should be coordinated through the Presiding Bishop and the Primate of the particular Church concerned. A decision [to attend or not to attend] should be made in accordance with the canonical position of the Province and within the collegiality of its Bishops."

Eames also acknowledged that the work of the Commission in defining relationships in the Communion once women had been elected to the episcopate and consecrated could not be accomplished in the initial London sessions. He announced that a second meeting would be held in the United States in March 1989, in part because the Episcopal Church of that province was "a Church with positive experience of the ministry of women priests and also [a Church] with thoughtful and loyal members who do not accept this development."

Eames went on to trace the process beyond the March Commission meeting: "Our report...will then go to the Archbishop of Canterbury for presentation to the Primates of the Anglican Communion who will meet in Cyprus at the end of April 1989."

In addition to defining the five key elements in the exercise of episcopal ministry (Ministry of the Word, Sacramental Ministry, Pastoral Care, Embodiment and Agent of Unity and Continuity, and Defender and Interpreter of the Faith) and laying down suggested guidelines for "the exercise of episcopal ministry in any diocese other than their own," Eames summed up for the Commission the heart of their initial deliberations.

DPS 88259/3

The Commission, addressing Resolution 72 from the 69th Lambeth Conference, "reaffirmed its unity in the historical position of respect for diocesan boundaries and the authority of bishops within these boundaries" and "affirms that it is...inappropriate behavior for any bishop or priest of this Communion to exercise episcopal or pastoral ministry within another diocese without first obtaining the permission and invitation of the ecclesial authority thereof."

The report concludes with an eye to the projected March 1989 meeting in the United States: "... We will attend to ... pastoral guidelines...to assist those who will be required to attend services where a woman is to be consecrated a bishop, and subsequently, when she will exercise a sacramental ministry." In these instances, the report concludes, "the spirit of Resolution 1 [of Lambeth 1988] will need to be invoked to the full -- words like "respect" and "courtesy" will have a special meaning."

In reacting to the Eames Commission Report, Presiding Bishop Edmond L. Browning was positive about the summary statement from London and described the body's work as "well begun." He also stated that he would be consulting with the Rt. Rev. Mark Dyer, Bishop of Bethlehem, the representative of the Episcopal Church on the Commission.

Browning went on to express his pleasure at learning of the Commission's ongoing plans: "I am pleased that the next meeting of the Commission will be held in the United States. I will offer to them the full cooperation of my office to assist them in any way they deem appropriate."

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[Note to Editors: The worldwide concern of churches about AIDS has taken many forms. Prominent among concerned responses was that of the Episcopal Church as reflected in the Resolution of the 69th General Convention calling for AIDS education in every congregation by the end of 1989. The two stories that follow are about concerned response.

The first story focuses on the educational initiative of an Episcopal congregation in the United States in direct response to the General Convention resolution. The second describes an ecumenical response by Roman Catholic, Anglican, and Lutheran bodies in Venezuela.]

AIDS Symposium Held in Pasadena

DPS 88260

NEW YORK (DPS, Dec. 1) -- On November 11-13 some 100 experts on AIDS -- theologians, pastors, care givers, persons living with AIDS, and educators -- gathered on the campus of the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, California, for a Theological and Pastoral Symposium on AIDS. The life of the symposium did not end with the last session. The proceedings of the meetings will be documented in a book to be published by Morehouse-Barlow in the spring of 1989. The Episcopal Radio and Television Foundation will release a video and study guide of the symposium by Lent 1989.

The symposium, which was co-sponsored by All Saints AIDS Service Center (Pasadena, California), Church Divinity School of the Pacific, and the Rt. Rev. William Swing, Bishop of California, was carefully structured, with five major areas of discussion:

"The Church: For the Clean or the Unclean?" was a theological reflection on the nature of the Church and the tensions between the Gospel and the culture. The paper highlighting these concerns was delivered by William Countryman, Professor of New Testament at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific. Responses,

DPS 88260/2

from sociopolitical and institutional Church perspectives, included the Rt. Rev. Frederick Borsch, Bishop of Los Angeles, and Patricia Wilson-Kastner, Professor of Preaching at General Theological Seminary in New York.

"Human Sexuality" was the second topic. In the United States, three out of four cases of AIDS are transmitted through sexual contact. This reality has compelled the Church to study once again a theology of human sexuality. Robert T. Francoeur, professor on the faculty of Fairleigh Dickinson University and author of Becoming a Sexual Person, delivered the paper on sexuality. Responding to Francoeur's presentation were Ann Lammers, Professor of Ethics at CDSP, and A. Oliver Vannorsdal, AIDS chaplain at Parkland Hospital in Dallas.

"Sin and Sickness/Faith and Healing" was the third topic, and its inclusion was based on the understanding that the current climate asks the Church to review the role of spiritual healing as proclamation of the Gospel. William Doubleday, Director of Field Education at General Seminary, made this presentation. Robert Sevensky, a monk of the Order of the Holy Cross and former professor in the humanities at the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, and Phyllis C. Leppert, a physician at St. Luke-Roosevelt Hospital in New York, responded to the paper.

"Death and Loss," reflecting the familiar phrase, "in life we are in the midst of death," was prepared for the symposium by a Californian living with AIDS, Canon William Barcus of the Diocese of California. The author was ill and unable to be present for the presentation. The Rev. Ted Karpf, a priest from Dallas with an extensive pastoral ministry to persons living with AIDS, and Albert Ogle, the director of All Saints AIDS Service Center, responded to the Barcus paper.

"Transformation: Future Visions and Plans," the final presentation, outlined the eschatological crisis raised by AIDS and plans for the future. It was written by Albert Ogle of All Saints

DPS 88260/3

AIDS Service Center. Ruth Black, chaplain at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, and John Robert Brown, a legislative aide to the Hon. Michael Synar, a member of the House of Representatives from Oklahoma, responded to the Ogle paper.

Everyone attending the symposium was given an opportunity to share personal stories and to ask questions. Many who attended the symposium felt that the stories they heard were especially valuable touchstones for those responding actively to the AIDS crisis in the world.

There were valuable contributions made to the symposium by people representing various ethnic communities, with especially strong input by black and Hispanic spokespersons.

Participants left to go back to their ministries with a renewed sense of purpose and empowerment.

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Venezuela Inaugurates Ecumenical AIDS Center DPS 88261

NEW YORK (DPS, Dec. 1) -- On November 18, Resurrexit, a unique, ecumenical center to help people living with AIDS and their families, was opened in a former school near St. Mary's Anglican Cathedral in Caracas, Venezuela. Representatives of Roman Catholic, Anglican, and Lutheran churches inaugurated the center after an evening service at St. Mary's.

Participants in the dedication ceremonies included three guiding spirits of Resurrexit, Roman Catholic Auxiliary Bishop of Caracas Miguel Delgado, Anglican Bishop Onell Soto, and Pastor Georg Metzger, president of the Lutheran Church in Venezuela.

In response to the growing concern in Venezuela about AIDS (there are some 242 reported cases but experts fear there are many more unreported), Resurrexit has gathered a group of clergy and professionals of all kinds who are volunteering their services to help people living with AIDS. Although Resurrexit will not provide medical treatment, it will provide referrals to cooperating medical facilities. The center's aim is to provide psychological attention, legal advice, and spiritual comfort to people living with AIDS and their families.

The idea of Resurrexit began a year ago as a consequence of services held during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Leaders of Venezuela's churches, cooperating at that point on raising money for a children's hospital, decided to turn their ecumenical efforts to addressing AIDS ministry as well.

Resurrexit also plans to organize workshops and conferences to help people understand AIDS, and a telephone lifeline service will be provided. The center guarantees absolute confidentiality to all who come, and there will be no charge for services.

Resurrexit, which is now officially recognized by the Venezuelan government, is seriously involved in fund raising. The

DPS 88261/2

first gift came from students at the International College of Caracas -- who donated the proceeds from their college play. The second contribution came from an anonymous woman who had lost her 29-year-old son to the disease in 1987, and the third contribution came from an ecumenical Thanksgiving service held at the United Christian Church, an English-speaking congregation in Caracas.

According to the Rev. Sante Cervellin, an Italian Roman Catholic missionary who serves as executive secretary of the center, Resurrexit is one of the few places [in Venezuela] where people living with AIDS can be helped with understanding, dignity, and compassion.

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Hispanic-Anglo Ministries Linked in Texas

DPS 88262

NEW YORK (DPS, Dec. 1) -- In Austin, Texas, on November 13, some 150 people gathered for the consecration of La Iglesia Episcopal San Francisco de Asis (St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church) and formally dedicated El Buen Samaritano (Good Samaritan) Episcopal Center. With these ceremonies, the increasingly intertwined ministries of an outreach program -- Good Samaritan -- and a Hispanic-Anglo congregation were formally recognized.

Speaking at the Austin ceremony, Texas Bishop Maurice M. Benitez urged Center workers to "try as much as you can to look for the face of Jesus Christ in those who come to you for help." The Rt. Rev. Anselmo Carral, Assistant Bishop of Texas, assisted in the ceremony at San Francisco de Asis. He was joined by the Rev. Juan Jimenez, vicar of San Francisco de Asis and executive director of El Buen Samaritano, and the Rev. Gustavo Gonzalez-Mesa, director of pastoral services at El Buen Samaritano.

The Sunday afternoon service officially recognized ministries that have been growing for several months in the Hispanic neighborhoods of South Austin. While scores of people contributed to the birth and growth of El Buen Samaritano and San Francisco de Asis, Jimenez and Gonzalez-Mesa are at the heart of the missions.

"They really exemplify the Baptismal Covenant of the Prayer Book," said the Rev. Leopoldo J. Alard, Executive Director of Province VII's Center for Hispanic Ministries. "By word and example they live the Baptismal Covenant."

Jimenez and Gonzalez-Mesa began their work in South Austin while they were students at the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest. Jimenez worked with Hispanic members of Holy Trinity, Austin, while Gonzalez-Mesa launched an outreach program with Austin Convocation churches at El Buen Samaritano. When the Hispanic congregation left Holy Trinity to found their own church, they

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DPS 88262/2

initially held services at the Center. The Diocese of Texas bought a vacant church for the San Francisco de Asis congregation early in 1988, a few blocks from El Buen Samaritano. The Hispanic and Anglo congregation of about 50 people have worshipped at their new church home since Easter 1988.

Other Episcopal churches in Austin, as well as churches of other denominations, have volunteered to increase El Buen Samaritano programs. El Buen Samaritano has an active lunch program and food and clothing banks. The Center was bolstered with a United Thank Offering grant of \$30,000 to help start a medical clinic. A program that assists expectant mothers through birthing and into postnatal care is in operation. Immigration and literacy programs are planned.

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BRIEFS

Stendahl, Koyama to Lecture at EDS

DPS 88263

NEW YORK (DPS, Dec. 1) -- On January 9-11, 1989, two internationally prominent theologians, Bishop Krister Stendahl and the Rev. Dr. Kosuke Koyama, will be featured speakers at Episcopal Divinity School (EDS) in Cambridge, Massachusetts, during the seminary's Continuing Education Program.

Koyama and Stendahl will initiate a series of conversations on the theme "Causes for Joy and Signs of Hope."

Koyama is Rockefeller Professor of Ecumenics and World Christianity at Union Theological Seminary in New York. His interests include studies of the issues posed by Christianity's transplantation to East Asia. His recent work has examined the theological and pastoral implications of nuclear weapons.

Stendahl has recently retired as Lutheran Bishop of Stockholm. Before his consecration as bishop, he served as dean and professor of New Testament at Harvard Divinity School. Stendahl's scholarship has focused on Jewish-Christian relations and studies of the Gospel of Matthew and Pauline Christianity. He has, during his career, been an active participant in ecumenical and interfaith dialogue

The Continuing Education Program at EDS is co-sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. This year Koyama and Stendahl are co-occupants of the Coburn Chair of Theology for the Mission of the Church, an endowed lecture chair established in honor of the Rt. Rev. John B. Coburn, retired Bishop of Massachusetts.

Further information about the three-day series of lectures may be obtained by contacting Gordon Bugbee, Episcopal Divinity

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DPS 88263/2

School, 99 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138. Tel. (617)868-3450. The deadline for registration is December 10.

International Anglican Youth Network Meets in Kenya

NEW YORK (DPS, Dec. 1) -- From October 29 to November 5 a group of regional representatives of the International Anglican Youth Network met in Limuru, Kenya, to discuss organization and plans for the future. A number of key recommendations for the future of the inter-Anglican group emerged from the meetings, including the appointment of the Rev. Bob Fyffe of the Scottish Episcopal Church as Network coordinator.

Fyffe's appointment marked the first stage of the organization's communication network. He will coordinate the quarterly mailings, which will include provincial information and prayer lists, as well as regional developments and initiatives.

Regional development in the Network was a major concern of the Kenya meeting, with six regions designated: Northern America, Southern America, Europe, Africa, the Pacific, and Asia.

Plans for the future included another international conference of the organization to be held in Canada in late August 1993.

Province One Convocation Explores Authority

NEW YORK (DPS, Dec. 1) -- One hundred and forty Episcopalians from Province I -- bishops, priests, deacons, and laypeople -- spent two days in November at Mont Marie Conference Center in Holyoke, Massachusetts, discussing authority in the Church.

The Holyoke meeting was the sixth gathering for New England Episcopalians. The Provincial Convocation has replaced the large, unwieldy Synod meetings of the past, and a once-a-year format offers an opportunity to explore issues facing the Church in an informal setting. Previous convocations have studied such subjects

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DPS 88263/3

as evangelism, peacemaking, lay ministry, and human sexuality.

Leaders for the recent synod on authority included the Rev. Charles Price, Professor of Systematic Theology and Liturgics at Virginia Theological Seminary; the Rt. Rev. Jeffery Rowthorn, Suffragan Bishop of Connecticut; and the Rt. Rev. Edward Chalfant, Bishop of Maine.

Bishop Arthur Walmsley of Connecticut, President of Province I, celebrated a festival Eucharist at which the preacher was the Hon. Byron Rushing, member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and an active Episcopal layperson.

"Authority is not a commodity," Rushing said. "It is power, given to us to use, to test." He likened the unused power to inventions locked up in a warehouse and never marketed.

In the keynote address of the Convocation, Price spoke of the Anglican principles of Scripture, Tradition, and Reason -- and called Scripture the primary authority in our lives. Without tradition, he said, we are cut off from history and become ourselves the sole judges of what is good, pure, and holy.

Many issues were raised in the course of the Convocation, and there was much lively discussion, although few hard and fast conclusions. Bishop Walmsley summed up the experience of the Convocation this way: "Provincial Convocation allows people who are deeply divided on issues to listen to each other and go away, not all in one place, but having eased some of the tension that exists in our family."

Brotherhood Helps Christian Ministry in Ugandan Village

NEW YORK (DPS, Dec. 1) -- The Brotherhood of St. Andrew, the organization preparing men for lay ministry in the Episcopal and Anglican Churches, has reached out to a small Christian community in Uganda to extend a helping hand. The village is called Baale, and it is north of Kampala. The people there are struggling to restore the village's life and economy -- essentially

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DPS 88263/4

farming -- and to encourage its Christian work.

Brotherhood funds have gone to help restore St. Andrew's Chapel in Baale, and a house for the pastor. The Brotherhood has also helped Baale hire a lay reader to assist the pastor and to acquire bicycles -- transportation is a problem there. A container shipment will soon be on the way to Uganda with goods destined for Baale including oil, tires, and clothing.

The most pressing problem Baale now has, however, is acquiring a safe and sure water supply. In 1987, two Brotherhood leaders, past president Robert F. Kirschner of Lakewood, Massachusetts, and current president Jerry Balcom of Nashua, New Hampshire, visited Baale to assess progress there and to meet the people, including village leaders and Bishop Livingstone Nkoyoyo. The men were impressed by what they saw, but they also identified the greatest outstanding need of the community. "The greatest need they have is for a safe and sure water supply," Balcom said. "They have explored several ways of getting it -- the Nile River is only a few miles away." But the visitors determined that the most suitable water supply plan for Baale is a reservoir, bulldozed out of the earth, to be filled by rain water.

Although the Brotherhood already has seed money for a portion of the project, they look to parishes and groups in the Episcopal Church for additional help in their ministry with the Christian people of Baale.

For further information, contact The Brotherhood of St. Andrew, P.O. Box 632, Ambridge, Pennsylvania 15003.

Psychologist Cites Problems in Clergy Marriages

NEW YORK (DPS, Dec. 1) -- Dr. Judith Edsall, a November fellow-in-residence at the University of the South's School of Theology at Sewanee, Tennessee, says that isolation, over-involvement in Church work, and the burden of living up to their own and other people's expectations can form obstacles to the

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happy marriages of Episcopal priests.

Edsall, a Florida psychologist married to an Episcopal priest, wrote her Ph.D. dissertation on the problems of clergy marriage. In a 1985 study of clergy couples of the Episcopal Diocese of Florida, Edsall found that Church wives most involved in secular activities, socializing, and study were more likely to be happy with their marriages than those who assumed the role of unpaid pastoral associate to their husbands. Husbands most satisfied with their marriages tended to spend more of their time with their families than the overall clergy average.

In Sewanee to pursue her interest in the interaction of psychology and theology, particularly as it affects clergy marriage and family relationships, Edsall spoke of the unrealistic expectations of clergy that many priests and their spouses feel compelled to live up to.

According to Edsall, many priests interpret the promise they make at ordination to act as wholesome examples to the community as meaning they must lead perfect lives. This kind of perfectionism can lead to workaholic priests and exacts a toll on their personal lives, affecting children as well as wives, with children of such priests often acting out the repressed fantasies of their parents.

"Wholesome means being healthy, not being perfect. Being healthy means you recognize the problems you have," Edsall said.

The good news her study found was that two-thirds of the couples studied were satisfied with their marriages. But Edsall said the pressure of trying to set an example and the pastoral obligation to be concerned with the needs of others can be troublesome for some priests.

"Like many other people in the helping professions, priests run the danger of neglecting their own mental health," Edsall said.

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DPS 88263/6

Spong to Ordain Australian Woman

On Saturday, December 10, in St. Mary's Memorial Church in Haledon, New Jersey, the Rt. Rev. John Shelby Spong will officiate at the ordination to the priesthood of Australian Caroline H. Pearce, a deacon currently studying at General Seminary in New York City.

Pearce came to the United States three years ago to study at General Seminary because the Anglican Church of Australia does not ordain women to the priesthood. She received a master of divinity degree from General, and, in May of 1988, was ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Spong. She is currently assisting the Rev. Elaine Kebba at St. Mary's Church and is studying for an advanced degree. As a seminarian, Pearce served for two years at St. Paul's Church, Wood-Ridge, New Jersey.

Before coming to the United States, Pearce had been involved with many community and Church organizations in Australia. She was for ten years a counselor and group leader with the Nursing Mothers' Association of Australia, the nation's oldest women's organization. She served the Association as state president, training consultant, and member of the national board of directors.

Pearce is married and has four daughters. A trained social worker, she went back to her studies when her youngest child started school, gaining her social work degree from the South Australia Institute of Technology.

A founder of the Movement for the Ordination of Women in her home state in Australia, Pearce will be the first Australian woman ordained abroad who intends to return home to serve the Australian Church -- although her future there is uncertain. Nevertheless, she will return to Australia in January -- as a priest.

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Theological Workshop Held in Brazil

NEW YORK (DPS, Dec. 1) -- On October 17-21, the Episcopal Church of Brazil held its first National Theological Workshop at Porto Allegre. The workshop, which was initiated by the Rev. Canon Luis A. Quirago, was opened by Brazil's Episcopal Primate, the Rt. Rev. Olavo Ventura Luiz. Twenty-eight clergy and seminarians attended, representing the seven dioceses of the Episcopal Church of Brazil.

The five-day workshop was sponsored by the Theological Education Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Episcopal Church in the United States, as part of their program of continuing education for clergy.

The themes of the workshop were "Anglican Theological Perspectives" and "Liturgy and Ministry of the Word." Two Anglican theologians, Dr. Luis A. Quiraga, a Colombian living in Spain and working with the Iberian Episcopal Churches, and Bishop Anselm Carral of the Diocese of Texas, led workshop discussions. They were assisted by the Rev. Luiz Caetano Grecco Teixeira, Dean of the Episcopal Seminary in Porto Allegre.

Throughout the week the participants were challenged by Quirago to reexamine the whole idea of Anglican theology, as well as stress its importance in the face of Brazil's predominantly Roman Catholic culture. The lectures, seminars, and study sessions were fitted into a liturgical structure of daily offices and the Eucharist. Brazilian hymns accompanied the use of the newly published Portuguese language edition of the Book of Common Prayer. Each evening there was a Bible study on the Epistle to the Philippians.

Although participants were asked to be as critical of the workshop as they wished, the consensus was that it had been of immense value and filled a need that clergy in the region had felt for a number of years.

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